

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5559
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USCINCEUR

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, LY, XI, XJ, XF
SUBJECT: QADHAFI: HARSH COMMENTS ON CHAD

REF: (A) TRIPOLI 0803, (B) TRIPOLI 0806

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1. IN REMARKS ON THE CHAD SITUATION DELIVERED IN ALGIERS JUNE
3, COLONEL QADHAFI IMPLIED THAT THE FIGHTING IN THE COUNTRY WAS
PART OF A RACIST, ANTI-MOSLEM CRUSADE WHICH HAS FRENCH PLANES
"CHASING THE CHADIAN REVOLUTIONARIES SOLELY BECAUSE THEY ARE
MOSLEM." QADHAFI NOTED THAT IT WAS CLEAR THAT SOUTHERN CHAD
WAS A CHRISTIAN AREA, NOT A MOSLEM ONE. HE ADDED THAT THE
MAJORITY OF THE MOSLEMS RESIDE IN THE NORTH WHERE THEY ARE

QUOTE OPPRESSED, DOWNTRODDEN, DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHTS, AND TRAMPLED UPON INCREASINGLY UNQUOTE. HE REMARKED FURTHER THAT IN NDJAMENA, "WHICH IS 100 PERCENT MOSLEM, NO MOSLEM HAS THE RIGHT TO SHARE IN THE GOVERNMENT. THEY EVEN DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE TRANSPORT FACILITIES AND THEY LIVE MISERABLY, POOR, BAREFOOT, AND NAKED. THEY HAVE BEEN LEFT TO MISERY, IGNORANCE, AND BACKWARDNESS." HE CONCLUDED HIS STATEMENT BY ASKING: "DON'T THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE UP ARMS TO RECOVER THEIR FULL HUMANITY?"

2. CONTRARY TO ALL HIS RECENT PRONOUNCEMENTS ON CHAD, QADHAFI MADE NO MENTION OF THE MARCH RECONCILIATION AGREEMENTS IN SEBHA AND BENGHAZI. HIS ONLY REFERENCE TO EARLIER PEACEMAKING EFFORTS WAS: "WE HAVE CALLED FOR PEACE, WE STILL WORK TOWARDS PEACE AND WE SHALL WORK TOWARDS IT." HE WARNED THAT THE PRESENCE OF FRENCH FORCES IN CHAD WOULD NOT BRING STABILITY OR SECURITY BUT WOULD "LEAD TO A RADICAL CHANGE." HE STATED THAT IN SUCH A SITUATION HE WOULD WELCOME MORE FRENCH TROOPS AND PLANES IN CHAD BECAUSE QUOTE WE WANT TO SEE FRANCE BURN UP IN THE AFRICAN SAHARA. THOSE WHO WANT TO GO ICE-SKATING IN AFRICA MUST KNOW THAT THERE IS NO ICE THERE. BUT THERE ARE JUNGLES, SWAMPS, AND MARSHES IN WHICH THEY WILL SINK WITHOUT A TRACE UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENT. THESE WERE QADHAFI'S HARSHTEST REMARKS EVER
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ON THE SITUATION IN CHAD, ALTHOUGH NO DIRECT MENTION MADE OF CHADIAN GOVERNMENT OR FROLINAT FOR THAT MATTER. IN THE FACE OF CONTINUED FRENCH VIGILANCE AND LIBYA'S VOCAL DRIVE AGAINST "FOREIGN INTERFERENCE" IN AFRICA, PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER CHAD RECONCILIATION TALKS IN TRIPOLI -- WHICH ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JUNE 7 -- ARE NOT GOOD. CHAD EMBASSY HERE STILL EXPECTS A NDJAMENA DELEGATION, BUT LIBYA IS UNLIKELY TO AGREE NOW TO ANY POLITICAL SOLUTION IN CHAD WHICH FAILS TO GIVE FROLINAT SUBSTANTIAL ROLE IN ANY NEW GOVERNMENT OR WHICH PERMITS CONTINUATION OF ANY SIGNIFICANT FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE COUNTRY.
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